THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPADYESSO NAK): (a) As per information furnished by Department of Science and Technology according to the seismic zoning map of the country, published by the Bureau of Indian Standards, Jablapur falls in Zone-Ill. According to this classification, the region is broadly associated with earthquake of intensity VII on Modified Moracalli scale. However, at present there is no method available anywhere in the world, which can predict earthquake occurrence scientifically in terms of space, time and magnitude.

(b) A state-of-art digital seismological observatory is functioning at Jabalpur. This observatory is maintained by the Geological Survey of India.

(c) An Indo-Italian workshop was organised at National Geophysical Research Institute, Hyderabad in the first week of March, 2001 on "Seismic Risk Evaluation". As a part of this workshop a team of Italian scientists accompanied with Indian experts visited Jabalpur area from 3rd to 5th March, 2001 for on the spot assessment pertaining to microzonation. On the basis of recommendations, microzonation of Jabalpur city has been initiated.

(d) The Bureau of Indian Standards prepares and periodically updates codes for earthquake resistant construction. The risk of destruction from future earthquake can be minimized, if these codes are properly followed, while constructing the buildings. Also, microzonation studies, which have already been initiated for Jabalpur city, will enable better planning and preparedness through risk evaluation.

Fishermen in Bihar

† 2741. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of schemes introduced for development of fishermen in the country;

(b) whether the Bihar Government has submitted its proposal to the Central Government for development of fishermen and for other facilities;

(c) if so, the details of action taken by the Central Government on the said proposal;

(d) whether there is any proposal to grant facilities to fishermen in Bihar, like the other States; and

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(e) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) The following important schemes, viz. Development of Marine Fisheries Motorisation of traditional crafts & Reimbursement of Central Excise duty on HSD Oil; Development of Freshwater Aquaculture; Integrated Coastal Aquaculture; National Welfare of Fishermen; Fishing Harbour Facilities at Major and Minor Ports; and Fisheries Training and Extension, are being implemented for development of Fisheries in the country.

(b)and(c)Yes,Sir.

(i) A proposal was received from State Government of Bihar for construction of houses for fishermen for which an amount of Rs. 47.54 lakhs has been released to the Government of Bihar in July, 2001 as Central share of subsidy.

(ii) A sum of Rs. 6.00 lakhs was released to Bihar in 1997-98 for training of 150 fish farmers and setting up of training centres. A gain in 2000-01, a sum of Rs. 3.00 lakhs was released to the State for training of 113 fish farmers.

(d) and (e) No proposals from Bihar are pending. Releases towards Central share are made to the States depending on the physical and financial progress with regard to the funds already made available to them.

Drop in oilseeds production

2742. SHRI RUMANDLA RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether oilseeds production during the current year has dropped, in comparison to 1998-99;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action taken to arrest alarming dependence on imported oils?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPADYESSO NAIK): (a) and (b)The oilseeds prodction during the year 1998-99, 1999-2000 & 2000-01 is given below:

Year	Production (million tonnes)
1999-2000	24.75
2000-2001	20.87
	18.20 (Advance estimates)